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What is claimed is

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An image reading apparatus, comprising:
 an image reading device capable of reading image
 data of a reference member;

a random noise suppressing device that suppresses random noise components in the image data of the reference member read by said image reading device; and

a detecting device that detects abnormality on the
reference member based on the image data having random
noise components suppressed by said random noise
suppressing device.

- An image reading apparatus according to claim
 wherein said random noise suppressing device
 suppresses random noise components by averaging the
 read image data of the reference member.
 - 3. An image reading apparatus according to claim

 1, wherein said random noise suppressing device
 suppresses random noise components by carrying out an
 interpolation process on the read image data of the
 reference member.
- An image reading apparatus according to claim
 , wherein said random noise suppressing device
 comprises a delay device that delays the read image
 data of the reference member, and an interpolation
 device that carries out the interpolation process on
 the read image data of the reference member and the

image data delayed by said delay device.

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- 5. An image reading apparatus according to claim
 1, further comprising a shading correction device that
 carries out a shading correction based on the read
 image data of the reference member, and wherein said
 random noise suppressing device suppresses random noise
 components in the image data on which the shading
 correction has been carried out by said shading
 correction device.
- 10 6. An image reading apparatus according to claim
 1, further comprising a shading correction device that
 carries out a shading correction based on the image
 data having random noise components suppressed by said
 random noise suppressing device, and wherein said
 15 detection device detects abnormality on the reference
 member based on the image data on which the shading
 correction has been carried out by said shading
 correction device.
- An image reading apparatus according to claim
 1, wherein said random noise suppressing device operates only when abnormality is to be detected on the reference member by said detection device.
 - 8. A control program that controls an image reading apparatus and can be executed by a computer, comprising:

an image reading module capable of reading image data of a reference member;

a random noise suppressing module for suppressing random noise components in the image data of the reference member read by said image reading module; and

- a detecting module for detects abnormality on the reference member based on the image data having random noise components suppressed by said random noise suppressing module.
- A control program according to claim 8,
 wherein said random noise suppressing module suppresses
 random noise components by averaging the read image data of the reference member.
 - 10. A control program according to claim 8, wherein said random noise suppressing module suppresses random noise components by carrying out an interpolation process on the read image data of the reference member.

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- 11. A control program according to claim 10, wherein said random noise suppressing module comprises a delay module for delaying the read image data of the reference member, and an interpolation module for carrying out the interpolation process on the read image data of the reference member and the image data delayed by said delay module.
- 12. A control program according to claim 8,25 further comprising a shading correction module for carrying out a shading correction based on the read image data of the reference member, and wherein said

random noise suppressing module suppresses random noise components in the image data on which the shading correction has been carried out by said shading correction module.

- further comprising a shading correction module for carrying out a shading correction based on the image data having random noise components suppressed by said random noise suppressing module, and wherein said detection module detects abnormality on the reference member based on the image data on which the shading correction has been carried out by said shading correction module.
- 14. A control program according to claim 8,
 15 wherein said random noise suppressing module is executed only when abnormality is to be detected on the reference member by said detection module.